

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 274660

62

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-06 EUR-12 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /091 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:BWBROWN:LAB

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

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P 140022Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 274660

TAGS: O , UNGA

SUBJECT: INDIAN VOTE ON ASEAN RESOLUTION

1. ACTING NEA ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER ON DECEMBER 13 CALLED IN INDIAN DCM GONSALVES (AMBASSADOR KAUL BEING OUT OF TOWN) TO REGISTER US REACTION TO INDIAN VOTING ON KHMER ISSUE. SOBER STATED THAT, WHILE WE HAD NOTED INDIA ABSTAINED RATHER THAN OPPOSED ASEAN RESOLUTION, USG FELT "GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT" AT INDIAN POSITION, AND THE SECRETARY HAD ASKED THAT THIS BE CONVEYED TO GOI. IN US VIEW, INDIAN FAILURE TO SUPPORT ASEAN RESOLUTION APPEARED TO DISREGARD DESIRES OF INDIA'S SEA NEIGHBORS WHILE FOLLOWING, IN NAME OF NON-ALIGNMENT, POSITION WHICH MANY OTHER NON-ALIGNED IGNORED. TO US, ASEAN RESOLUTION SEEMED CLOSE TO PRINCIPLES OF UN CHARTER WHICH INDIA HAS STRONGLY UPHELD, AND WE WONDER WHY INDIA COULD NOT HAVE SUPPORTED IT. SOBER EXPRESSED HOPE INDIA WOULD VOTE AGAINST ANY CHALLENGE TO GKR CREDENTIALS WHICH MIGHT ARISE DURING REST OF THIS UNGA.

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PAGE 02 STATE 274660

2. GONSALVES RESPONDED THAT ASEAN COUNTRIES HAD SEEMED

"REASONABLY SATISFIED" WITH INDIAN ABSTENTION, ONLY SUCH
VOTE AMONG ALL SOUTH ASIANS. WHILE INDIA NOT BOUND
LEGALLY BY NON-ALIGNED POSITIONS, THEY ARE "TAKEN

SERIOUSLY" BY INDIA. FURTHERMORE, INDIA WAS UNDER HEAVY
PRESSURE FROM NON-ALIGNED SUCH AS ALGERIA AND YUGOSLAVIA.
GONSALVES WANTED TO KNOW HOW MANY OTHER STATES WERE
BEING CALLED IN BY DEPARTMENT AND WHETHER INDIA WAS
BEING "DISCRIMINATED AGAINST" IN THIS REGARD. WITHOUT
DIVULGING NAMES OF OTHERS, SOBER ASSURED HIM THAT THERE
WERE OTHER "FRIENDS OF US" TO WHOM WE WERE EXPRESSING
OUR GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT. (FYI: LIST INCLUDES PAKISTAN
AND NEPAL. END FYI). IN RESPONSE TO SOBER'S LAST
POINT, GONSALVES DID NOT FORESEE ANY FURTHER CHALLENGE
ON KHMER ISSUE DURING THIS UNGA. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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